

# **10 FAM 320 SELECTION AND NOMINATION**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

## **10 FAM 321 GENERAL**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

International Visitors are nominated by missions abroad, with final selection contingent upon the concurrence of the Department. The Program is invitational; therefore, it is not publicized. The foreign government may be consulted during the nominating process, as necessary. If reasons exist to justify an exception to this policy, the Department must be consulted well in advance of making a commitment, implied or otherwise.

## **10 FAM 322 ANNOUNCEMENTS TO POSTS**

### **10 FAM 322.1 IV Grant Allocations**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

Posts will receive prior to the beginning of the fiscal year, tentative IV Grant allocations, pending receipt of the Bureau's Congressional Appropriation. Once the Appropriation is received and distributed, final IV allocations will be made.

### **10 FAM 322.2 Multi-regional and Regional Grantee Projects**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

Prior to the beginning of the fiscal year posts will receive announcements of multi-regional and regional grantee projects planned for the upcoming fiscal year. The agenda of projects is based upon post country plan submissions and project evaluations from posts, foreign participants, ECA/PE/V staff and cooperating institutions.

### **10 FAM 322.3 Single Country Grantee Projects**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

These projects present opportunities for small groups of visitors to travel together and examine relatively specialized topics of interest. They are frequently conducted in local languages. The responsibility for initiating single country projects generally rests with posts.

## **10 FAM 323 SELECTION COMMITTEE**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

a. The post's Selection Committee should be chaired by the Public Affairs Officer on behalf of the Ambassador and should include appropriate representatives of all important mission elements.

b. The post's Selection Committee should avoid duplication with other exchange programs conducted by the U.S. Government or private U.S. organizations located in the host country.

c. The Selection Committee nominates grant candidates and voluntary visitor candidates in accordance with the selection criteria set forth below.

## **10 FAM 324 CRITERIA FOR SELECTION**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

a. Selection must be consistent with approved country plans and projects. Priority should be given to influential or potentially influential decision-makers, opinion leaders and individuals of exceptional talent, achievement or promise. Nominees should have a serious purpose, a desire to learn, a positive motivation, and an open mind while visiting the United States. Those who are unfriendly toward the United States should be considered only if their attitude is primarily a result of basic ignorance or misunderstanding about the United States. Someone who is critical of particular aspects of U.S. life or specific institutions and policies can be considered; but someone who, in the opinion of the Country Team, is completely hostile and closed to a better understanding of the United States would not be an appropriate nominee. Those who are likely to use the IV experience to reinforce or obtain greater credibility for such prejudices are especially inappropriate. Nominees should be fully briefed so that they understand that it is the objective of the IV program to expose the participants to the full range of responsible views and perspectives concerning the thematic focus of the particular program. This applies in all fields, but especially on sensitive policy issues.

b. Special consideration should be given to candidates who are articulate and willing to discuss their country and its history, culture and aspirations with U.S. citizens, as well as to those who will multiply their U.S. exposure by speaking or writing about their experiences after their return home.

## **10 FAM 324.1 Citizenship**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

A candidate, as a rule, must be a citizen of the country from which he or she is nominated. In exceptional cases, resident non citizens may be nominated, if their selection can be shown to contribute to the achievement of country plan objectives. A foreign national's point of origin at the time of nomination or the start of his or her professional/cultural exchange need not be that person's country of origin.

## **10 FAM 324.2 Personal Factors**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

Candidates should be in good health, both physically and mentally, of good moral character, and without known personality characteristics which would prejudice their participation in the program. While there are no stated age limitations, candidates should be mature persons who will gain from their U.S. programs, be able to withstand the rigors of extensive travel, and be expected to remain in or advance to influential positions. Any exceptions to the foregoing must be reported with the nomination for the Department's consideration.

## **10 FAM 324.3 Visa Eligibility**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

a. A candidate must be eligible for a U.S. exchange visitor visa (J-1). Agency name checks are not required unless the post is so instructed. Prior to submitting a nomination, the post should make a preliminary determination whether there are any grounds for ineligibility (security or other) for a U.S. visa which cannot be waived. A final determination of visa eligibility must be made by a consular officer when the visa application is submitted. If required, the approval of ECA must be obtained before action to obtain a waiver by the Attorney General under section 212 (d)(3)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act is initiated under normal visa procedures.

b. If action by the Attorney General under section 212 (d)(3)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended, should be required, the procedures set forth in Visa Regulations, 22 CFR 41.95 and Notes, including Appendix A (Classified), must be followed (see Visa Handbook). In all such cases, the fundamental point is the suitability of the individual for a U.S. visit, irrespective of his or her eligibility for admission to the United States. Any recommendation for action by the Attorney General should be documented and submitted at the earliest possible date to the Department of State.

## **10 FAM 324.4 Previous U.S. Government Grant**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

A foreign national who has visited the United States on a grant awarded by any U.S. Government agency within the past five years normally should not be nominated for a fully funded International Visitor Project. Exceptions to this rule will be made only under extraordinary circumstances, with appropriate justification. Former grantees may be nominated for partial grants or as voluntary visitors with appropriate justification.

## **10 FAM 324.5 Previous Visits to United States**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

Preference will be given to persons who have not previously visited the United States. The recency, duration, and extent of any previous visit to the United States under any auspices should be taken into account by posts considering possible nominees. A foreign national who has had an extensive and varied stay in the United States should only be nominated if exceptional circumstances prevail, and with appropriate justification.

## **10 FAM 324.6 Military Personnel**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

a. The International Visitor Program is not generally intended for foreign military personnel. In exceptional circumstances, supported by appropriate justification, grants may be issued if to do so would be in the best interest of the United States and further the objectives of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act. Programming in the United States will be civilian in nature, as with all other grantees.

b. Military personnel serving in long term civilian positions or those likely to be assigned to such positions upon completion of the grant period may be nominated, with appropriate justification. Nominations of civilian personnel serving in military assignments must also include justification. The nominating communication should explain why military funding is not available. For participants who are military officers, uniforms may not be worn during ECA/PE/V arranged meetings, including those at the Pentagon or other military establishments.

## **10 FAM 324.7 Nomination of VIPS**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

The International Visitor Program is not equipped or funded to provide VIP or protocol treatment. The IV Program is also not intended for current members of government at Cabinet and sub Cabinet levels whose primary purpose for visiting the United States is the transaction of government to government business. Occasionally, particular country situations may warrant the nomination of a candidate at these levels. In such cases, full justification must be submitted at the time of nomination, along with the post's recommendation for the appropriate rate of per diem and the class of international and U.S. travel. First class travel may be recommended by the post only if the candidate is of ministerial level and appropriate justification can be made. Additional costs for higher per diem and travel will be charged against post allocations.

## **10 FAM 325 NOMINATING PROCEDURES**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

Posts will be advised annually of submission deadlines for nominations for individual grantees and for regional and multi-regional projects.

### **10 FAM 325.1 Format for Submission**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

Posts are responsible for the security determination of foreign nominees. A preliminary determination of visa eligibility should be made prior to nomination.

#### **10 FAM 325.1-1 Part I Submission**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

Full and partial grantee nominations are to be submitted in two parts. Part I provides the Department with basic information needed to evaluate and approve a nomination. Nominations cannot be considered without the data required in Part I.

#### **10 FAM 325.1-2 Part II Submission**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

Once the Department has agreed to the nomination and the candidate has accepted, Part II should be completed and submitted to ECA/PE/V at the earliest opportunity. If possible, the participant should assist in the

preparation of this data. A departure date should be proposed at the earliest possible time.

**Note:** Biographic and program information should be submitted in unclassified form to facilitate its use by program agencies and local communities. Relevant classified information should be submitted separately.

## **10 FAM 325.2 Voluntary Visitor Nominations**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

Parts I and II are required to be submitted simultaneously, five to six weeks prior to the desired program date.

## **10 FAM 326 THROUGH 329 UNASSIGNED**